

AN HUMBLE

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REMONSTRANCE

FROM

His *Excel.* Sir THOMAS FAIRFAX

AND

The *Army* under his Command concerning the present State of Affaires in relation to themselves and the Kingdome, with their desires and present Resolutions thereupon.

Presented to the Commissioners at St. Albanes, June 23. to be by them humbly presented to the PARLIAMENT.

By the appointment of his *Excel.* Sir Thomas Fairfax and the Counsell of Warre.

Signed,

John Rushworth Secr.

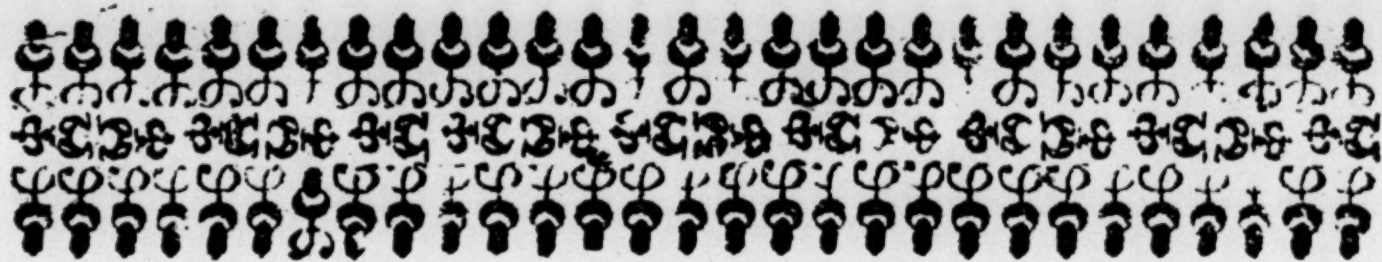


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AN HUMBLE
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 FROM

His *Excel.* Sir *Thomas Fairfax* and
 The *Army* under His Command : concer-
 ning the present estate of Affaires in relation
 to themselves and the *Kingdome*, with their Desires
 and present Resolutions thereupon.

I.



OUR Desires as Souldiers in behalfe of our selves
 and other Souldiers that have faithfully served
 the *Parliament* in this Kingdome, as also our re-
 maining dissatisfactions in relation thereunto,
 may be clearly collected out of our severall
 Papers that have formerly beene presented to
 the *Parliament* concerning the same, to which
 particulars we have not yet received any further satisfaction.

2. In our last Representation it may appeare what our Desires
 are, as Members of the Common wealth in behalfe of our selves
 and all others for the clearing, settling, and securing of the Rights,
 Liberties and Peace of the Kingdome: for the Justnesse, Rea-
 sonableness, Necessity, and Common-concernment whereof
 unto all, we dare appeale to the whole Kingdome, and to the
 World: yet we have hitherto received no answer thereunto,
 nor can we heare of any consideration taken thereupon, to put
 the things conteined therein into any way of resolution or
 dispatch.

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3. We

3. Wee have since, in pursuance of the first and second *ucca* of our desires in the said representation, delivered in a charge against divers persons, Members of the House of *Commons*, for divers designs and practises to the abuse and Dishonor of the *Parliament* the unsufferable injury of the *Army*, the infringement of the Rights and Liberties both of Souldiers and Subjects, the breach or hazard of the Peace of this Kingdome, and the hinderance of the reliefe of *Ireland &c.*

4. Vpon which though the maine things charged, with the mischievous effects and further dangerous consequences of them, as also the constant and continued activity of all, or most of the persons charged in relation to those things, for the most part are sufficiently knowne, especially to the *Parliament* it selfe, yet wee finde neither any thing done vpon what is so knowne, nor any way resolved on or admitted by the *Parliament* for the examination or discovery of what may be lesse knowne: But rather (as if neither the things charged nor the present sad effects nor future ill consequences thereof were at all considerable) the whole businesse seemes to be slightly past ouer or set aside.

Lastly we did with these deliuer in another paper (whereof here is a Coppy annexed) contayning divers just and necessary things which wee did desire might be provided for, and done for the better proceeding in the Premisses with more safety to our selves and the Kingdome, and with more assurance or hopes of a timely and happy issue.

To which things desired (which wee suppose all men reasonable will thinke just and necessary) wee have yet received no answer or resolution, nor can finde any consideration at all had of them, save that a months pay is sent downe to the *Army*, whilst those that have deserted the *Army*, receive at *London* much more, and that some Votes have bin passed for the annulling the Committee pretended for safety about listing of men and drawing of Forces together, which Votes wee finde rendered but vaine and delusive, by the continued under-hand practises of those whom wee have charged and their accomplices in listing and ingaging men for a new Warre, and by a later dayes Votes not admitting that the Forces so listed or ingaged by publicke Order be dismissed or discharged: which with other things wee cannot but attribute chiefly

chiefly to the prevalent influence of the same persons.

Now whereas wee finde that our first desire in the Paper last mentioned (for present suspending the persons Impeached from sitting in the House) is judged by some to be against the course & Priviledge of *Parliament*, or of ill consequence in the president of it, (the charge being but generall and no particular proofes as yet produced to render the proceedings Legal) we cannot but remind the *Parliament*.

First, That as the most and maine things charged (with the sad effects and consequences of them) so the constant and continued activity, of all or most of the persons charged in relation thereunto, (in misinforming, deluding, abusing or surprizing the House, and otherwise, are sufficiently knowne to the *Parliament* it selfe,) so as the House might upon their owne past and present cognizance of the same, most justly proceed to suspend them,) as (in many other cases upon farre lesse occasions which never could have produced such sad effects to the Kingdome,) they have done many other of their members meerely for words spoken of things moved in the House alledged to be but against Order or Custome of the House, and this without any tryall, prooffe or charge, but meerely upon the Houses owne cognizance of the things, as we could instance in many cases since this *Parliament* began.

Secondly, Whereas many of the things to which the Charge relates, are things spoken, moved or done in the House, so as yet we have no cleare way opened particularly to charge or mention them, or to produce proofes to them, without some pretence against us of breach of priviledge, and therefore (though we thinke no priviledge ought to protect evill men in doing wrong to particulars, or mischief to the Publique yet,) we have beene hitherto so tender of *Parliament-Priviledges*, as that we have onely remonstrated the evill of such things done, and supposing the House to have beene (as we did, and doe beleeve, and if way were open, without breach of Priviledge, should not doubt to proove it was) some wayes misinformed, deluded, surprized, or otherwise abused in these things by evill members, we have frequently in former papers, (before the Charge) put the *Parliament* upon it, (who without colour of breach of Priviledge

might doe it,) to find out and discover who they were that had so abused them, and to disingage the Honour of Parliament from the evill practises and designs of such Incendiaries.

Now since the same difficulties or prejudices lye yet in our way, (as to the particular charging or prooffe of such things against members.) And the Parliament (though so often put upon it in our former papers, yet through the powerfull interest of the persons guilty,) hath not taken any cognizance what members or others have so abused them, to draw the Parliament to such dishonour and inconveniences, we cannot but againe more fully and clearely assert (as we have in former papers, and shall more particularly if neede be, remonstrate) that divers things lately done and passed from the Parliament against this Army, (as particularly the Order for suppressing the Petition, that high Declaration against it, and against all that should proceede in it, putting the faithfull servants of the Parliament and Kingdome out of the protection of the Law, and exposing them as enemies to the State, &c: to the forfeiture of Estates, Liberties, Life and all, but for going about in an humble, peaceable and inoffensive way, to desire what was undeniably, their due and dearely earned, and many other such like proceedings both against the Army, and others,) doe carry with them such a face of injustice, oppression, arbitrarinesse and tyranny, as (we thinke) is not to be paraleld in any former proceedings of the most Arbitrary Courts against any private men, but have brought insufferable dishonour upon the Parliament, (which we are, and others ought to be deeply sensible of,) hath tended to disoblidge all men, especially Souldiers from the same, to destroy all just freedome either of Souldiers or Subjects, and hath conduced to all other the sad effects and worse consequences, expressed in the Charge, and gives us and others cause to conclude that those Worthies, who have formerly acted and carried on things in Parliament for Publique-Good, Right and Freedome, are now awed or over-borne by a prevailing party of men of other private interests crept in, and that neither we, nor any other can reasonably expect right freedome or safety (as private men or) to have things acted in Parliament for publicke good while the same persons continue there in the same power to abuse the name
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and authority of Parliament, to serve and prosecute their private interests and passions and (vnder the priviledges of Parliament) to shelter themselves under the worst of evils or mischeifes they can doe, though to the Ruine of the Kingdome. Wee are in this case forc'd (to our great grieve of heart) thus plainly to asseert the present evill and mischiefe, together with the future worse consequences of the things lately done even in the Parliament it selfe, (which are too evident and visible to all.) And so (in their proper colours) to lay the same at the Parliaments doores, untill the Parliament shall be pleased either of themselves to take notice and ridde the Houses of those who have any way misinformed, deluded, surprized, or otherwise abused the Parliament to the passing such foule things there, or shall open to us and others some way how we may (regularly and without the scandall of breaking Priviledges come to charge and prosecute those particular persons, that (in truth) have so abused the Parliament, (as well as our selves) even for those misinformations, and other evill and indirect practises or proceedings in Parliament, whereby they have so abused the same (as in our said Charge and former papers is set forth.)

And here (if wee may) we should humbly offer to consideration whether it were not a necessary expedient, for prevention or remedy of such evils in future, that in things so clearely destructive to the common Rights and Liberties of the people, and the safety of the Kingdome, there should be a libertie for dissenting members in the house of Commons (as it is allowed in the house of Peeres) to enter their dissent, and thereby to acquit themselves from the guilt or blame of what evill may ensue, that so the Kingdome may regularly come to know who they are that performe their trust faithfully, and who not. And this provision for the future, (as also our desires for remedy in the present cases) as it were clearely good and necessary in the respects premised, so (wee thinke) the same may well be without future prejudice or discouragement in any other respects to succeeding Members of Parliament. Providing alwaies that no man shall be questioned or censured for any thing said or done in Parliament any further then to exclusion from that trust, which is all that in the present case wee should desire upon any such grounds. And that future liberty of
entering;

entering dissents wee doe not here propose as a thing wee any way insist on to the prejudice of *Parliament* priviledges, wee onely offer it to consideration, and that from good wishes to the Priviledges of *Parliament*, to render them more lasting by being lesse nocent. And indeed whoever most adores or tenders those Priviledges, will best expresse his zeale towards them in taking care they be not abused or extended to private wrong or publicke mischief. (For wee clearly finde & all wise men may see it) that *Parliament* Priviledge, as well as Royall-Prerogative, may be perverted and abused to the destruction of those greater ends for whose protection and preservation they were admitted or intended (*viz.* the Rights and Liberties of the people and safety of the whole) and in case they be so, the abuse, evill, or danger of them is no lesse to be contended against, and a remedy thereof no lesse to be endeavoured, then of the other.

And whereas the injustice (in that particular of the *Declaration* against the *Army* for their just and innocent Petition) may seeme to have bin recompensed in the late expungeing thereof out of the Journall bookes. Wee confesse it had bin so in great measure, as to the particular or present injury done to the *Army* therein, & (we cannot but acknowledge therefore the Justice that lyes in those Votes for expungeing thereof, and for our owne or the *Armys* particular reparation, wee should neither wish more, nor scarce have insisted on so much to any dishonor of *Parliaments* in future, & we should rather have been satisfied with the *Parliaments* declaring how, and by whom they have bin misinformed, surprised, or otherwise abused in the framing, proposall or passing thereof as it was, but as to that particular, or any other of that nature, we say as followeth.

1. We never did nor doe value or regard our own injury or reparation in any comparison to the consequence of the one, to the prejudice of the other, or to the future security of common right & freedome in this Nation. And accordingly we do not account any reparation considerable that extends but to our selves in the present case, and does not in some sort secure our selves, and all others from danger of the same or worse injuries or oppressions, (as private men from the wills and passions of the same persons that have offered and acted such things against us while an Army.

Secondly

2. We cannot but imagine and consider (according to generall report) how the expungeing of that declaration was carried and obtained and upon what grounds or intentions it was given way to but had those that procured it been al for expungeing it (and that freely) yet how can we expect better but that the same men who at one time carried such a declaration and another time expunged it may the next day obtaine the like or worse (upon any occasion wherein it may serve their private ends or interelts) if they continue in the same power and sway, and be let passe in deluding and surprizing the Parliament as they have done in the past particulars.

3. The aparant dishonour and prejudice brought upon the Parliament in having such a Declaration so passed as they should seeme after (without any alteration) in the pretended ground of it find cause (for shame of the world) to expunge, (we thinke) should engage those Members that love Parliaments in point of honour to find out and discover how and by whom the Parliament had been abused or otherwise brought into such an in conveniency. and the Parliament may in this see the temper (as by-standers doe the prevalence) of these Members that abused the Parliament in that Declaration who will and can make the authority of Parliament still lye under the dishonour of it (in a bare expungeing or retracting) rather then admit any consideration to acquit the authority of Parliament that would tend to fix the blame on those particular Members that have deserved it. And this certainly will be admitted and done rather then to slight it over in a bare expunging. were not some men more tender of, and more swayd with such considerations and consequences as may tend to the prejudice of persons then such as tend to the generall prejudice and dishonour of Parliaments.

As to those particulars included in our charge, which depend on things done without the Parliament, we are ready, and should most willingly proceed in the particular charge, and proving thereof if (first from the justice of the House in a present proceeding against the persons charged for those

things that are already knowne to the House being done. it) we could find encouragement to expect any good issue upon those other things, and did we not (on the contrary) find that (notwithstanding what is so knowne to the House, as before expressed) the same persons continue in such power and prevalence both in the House, and in all Committees of the highest trust, as leaves little hope of right or satisfaction to the Army or Kingdome in other things, and much lesse in any just proceeding against themselves, while they continue Judges of their owne and our concernments, so as we cannot (while they remaine in the same power) expect any other but a continued perverting and making advantage of all things (and especially of those delays which a regular proceeding against them would necessarily induce) altogether to our owne and the Kingdomes prejudice, and danger, disable or weaken us for those things which the safety, and settling of the rights, liberties, and peace of the Kingdome requires, and to strengthen themselves by under hand practices and preparations both at home and abroad the better to oppose us, and engage the Kingdome in a new Warre thereby to accomplish their designs, or at least to save themselves from justice in a common confusion: we say were it not for these, and such other considerations that leave little hopes of Justice to our selves or the Kingdome (while they continue in the same power) and render all delays dangerous and destructive to our selves and peace of the Kingdome, we should be contented that the buisnesse concerning the Members we have charged should be laid aside, till those other things were first settled which our declaration doth propound for the Common rights and liberties of the Kingdome.

But finding things so carried as they are, and as we have before expressed and that while they are judges in their own cause, they (with that party they make) will do what they please, and yet render it a breach of priviledge to be accused for it, we cannot but upon all these considerations, and for all the reasons before expressed, insist upon it, that the members charged may first be forthwith suspended from sitting in the House. Otherwise
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we cannot expect any fair proceeding against them upon a more particular charge, nor think there is any good intended to our selves or the Kingdome.

As to our desire of having the Army presently paid, as equally with those that have deserted it, we appeal to all men for the justice, reasonablenesse, and necessity thereof.

The justice in that the former service (for which those arrears are due) hath been (at least as faithfully) and diligently performed by the Army, as by those deserters of it, and in our present posture (though they have appeared indeed more officious, and serviceable to the interests and will of particular men then we, yet we are sure the Army is, (and we hope) will at last appear to be more faithfull to the true interest of Parliaments and the Kingdom (which we were at first call'd out and ingaged for) then they in deserting the Army have hitherto appeared.

For the reasonablenesse of our desires, though we have grounds to claim more then they, or rather that they or some of them should forfeit their arrears, yet we ask (for present) but equal, nor should we (at present) insist much on that (as to officers) if our souldiers were but first paid up.

Our necessity to insist on that is obvious to every man, and therefore, (un'less we should betray our own, and the Kingdoms cause) we cannot but positively insist upon it that the Army should forthwith be paid up (at least) equally to those deserters of it, which if denyed or delayed, we shall thereby be enforced upon present wayes of instant remedy and right to the Army therein.

And whereas the Parliament hath lately ordered and publicly declared, that all that shall desert the Army shall have present satisfaction in their arrears (the officers three moneths pay the souldiers all their arrears, deducting for free quarter) which still continues unrecalled, we cannot but look upon it as a most cleare evidence of the continuing malice, and prevalence of ours and the Kingdomes enemies. And we must and do insist upon it that that order or Declaration may forthwith be publicly recalled otherwise we cannot believe that any thing but ruine and destruction is designed to our selves & al others in the Kingdom who eve-

ry where call upon us not to disband till we see the rights, liberties and peace of the Kingdome settled, according to the many declarations by which we were first called forth and invited to engage in this late warre.

Next we cannot but take notice that (instead of granting, or answering our desires in the last paper) in order to the better and more safe proceeding to a compolure and settlement of all things for the good and peace of the Kingdom and for prevention of a new Warre, the Army being first commanded to forty miles distance from *London* his Majesties person is demanded immediatly to *Richmond* Houle, within eight miles of *London*; which as we cannot but impute it, to the prevailing interest of the same enemies to our and the Kingdomes peace; for all men may easily discern (with us) how directly it tends (in pursuance upon their former private designe upon the King, ere he came from *Holmby*) to put his Majesty within the reach of those mens power who have underhand lifted about *London* already very considerable numbers both of horse and foote, and are daily lifting and engaging more, both there, and in many parts of the Kingdome to serve their designes, And therefore we appeale to all unengaged men whether we can in this give way to have the King put so farre within those mens power without giving them the so long sought for advantage of his Majesties person whereby to embroyl the Kingdom, in a new and bloody warre, and to strengthen themselves in their mischievous designes, the better to uphold and establish their faction and intended domination, so that in this case we cannot but importune the Parliament (as they tender the peace and safety of the Kingdome, and the avoiding of jealousies, or worse inconveniency in the Army) that they would resume the consideration of that busines, concerning the person of the King and not to propose any place for him nearer to *London*, then they would have the quarters of the Army to be.

And whereas (by the procurement of the same persons, or other of their party) there hath been scandalous informations presented to the Houses & industriously published in print, importing, as if his Majesty were kept as a prisoner amongst us,
and

and barbarously and unchristianly used, we cannot but declare that ~~the same~~ ~~our~~ ~~other~~ suggestions of that sort, are most false, and scandalous, and absolutely contrary, not only to our declared desires, but also to our principle, which are most clearly for a generall right, and just freedom to all men. And therefore upon this occasion we cannot but declare particularly that we desire the same for the King, and others of his party (so far as can consist with common right or freedom, and with the security of the same for future) and we do further clearly professe, we do not see how there can be any peace to this Kingdome firm or lasting, without a due consideration of and provision for the rights, quiet and munity of his Majesties Royall family, and his late partakers, and herein we think that tender and equitable dealing (as supposing their cases had been ours) and a spirit of common love and Justice diffusing it selfe to the good, and preservation of all, will make up the most glorious conquests over their hearts (if God in mercy see it good) to make them, and the whole people of the Land lasting friends.

Now to draw to a Conclusion, since wee can yet obtain no satisfaction or answer to the things desired as before, but contrariwise find all things carried on by the prevailing interest of those our enemies, to the prejudice, and danger of our selves and the Kingdom, since (notwithstanding some Votes of Parliament against the late Orders of the Committee of safety, for lifting of Forces, and notwithstanding the earnest desires and endeavours of the City concurrent with our own to have the same prevented or remedied, yet the said Committee of safety being continued still in the same power) we find that by the appointment or contrivance and under the protection, or countenance of the same persons whom we have charged, and their Complices, there are still manifold practices under-hand, to lift, and raise new forces, and (notwithstanding the discovery thereof to the Parliament from the City, yet the same persons have prevailed so far in the House, as not to admit the question for discharging of them, but the same practices still continue, and with double

ble diligence are enforced, since also double forces pretended to have engaged for *Ireland*) are by the same persons Ordered to Rendezvous about *Worcester*, there to lay the foundation of a new Army, and to that purpose their emissaries, and correspondents in all Counties are busie, and active to raise forces for them. And though for these things the actors of them have no present publick Authority, yet they have some way such countenance and assurance to be justified in Parliament if questioned for it, as that they have the confidence to act openly, since they have likewise their Emissaries, or Agents abroad in *Scotland*, *France*, and other Countreys very active to draw in Forraign forces for their assistance, since in the mean time they are endeavouring by Spyes, and secret Agents in all our quarters to inveigh, and invite the souldiers of this Army to desert their Officers, and come to *London*, and for that purpose doe improve the advantage of the Order or Declaration of Parliament afore mentioned, for satisfaction of Arrears to such as shall desert the Army; And wee find they have the publick purse so much at their disposalls, as to make good that, and other their undertakings of that nature; And yet such as have so deserted the Army, and received their arrears are not discharged or disperst, but continued together in bodies, and under command in or neere the City (as in particular some of Sir *Robert Pyes* men, Collonel *Graves* his Captaine *Farmer*, and others still quartered upon *Kent*, since likewise they have their Agents, and correspondents labouring with the King, to make contracts with him, to draw his Majesty to engage, and declare for them, or at least to declare himselfe a Prisoner amongst us, whereby to stirre up and engage his party against us since in all these respects we find all delatory wayes (which they industriously devise) to be designed and made use of only to our disadvantage, weakning, and ruine, and the Kingdoms prejudice, and to their own advantage, and strengthening in their designs, the better to prepare for a new warre.

And lastly, considering the multitudes of Reformadoes and other souldiers swarming about the City (whom, the persons
we

we have charged, and their Complices have at their beck, to bring up to *Westminster* when they please) and that by their frequent tumultuous confluences thither (besieging and sometimes locking up the Parliaments doores, threatening, and offering violence to the persons of the most faithfull Parliament-men) the just freedome of Parliament seemes to be taken away, or at least for the present abridged, insomuch, that those Members who have served the Kingdome hitherto with most faithfulness, diligence, and integrity for the publick good, many of them dare scarce come to the House, or (if they do) they come in feare, and perill of their lives ; and when they are there, are awed, discouraged, or disabled from discharging their consciences, or doing their duties to the Kingdome.

Upon all these considerations we are clearly convinc'd, and satisfied, that both our duty and trust for the Parliament, and Kingdome calls upon us and warrants us, and an eminent necessity (for our own and the Kingdomes safety, and prevention of a new warre) enforceth us to admit no longer delays; but upon those foundations God hath given us, with vigor and speed, to indeavour in some extraordinary way the vindicating of Parliament freedom from tumultuous violence, the breaking of those designs and preparations, that otherwise threaten a present embroyment of the Kingdome in more blood and war, and a future perpetuall inflaving of it, under Faction and Tyranny. And so (if God see it good) to put the Parliament into a freedome, and capacity (with his Majesties wisht and hoped concurrence) to settle the Rights, Liberties, and peace of the Kingdome.

Vpon all those grounds and for all these ends premised we shall be enforced to take such courses extraordinary as God shall enable and direct us unto to put things to a speedy issue, unlessse by Thursday at night next we receive assurance and security to our selves and the Kingdome for a more safe and hopesfull proceeding in an ordinary way, by having those things granted which in order thereunto, we have before insisted on, and shall here for more brevity and clearnes repeat as followeth.

1. That

1 That the declaration inviting men to desert the Army, and promising their arrears in case they do so, may be recalled and annulled.

2 That the Army may be presently paid up, equally to those that have deserted it.

3 That his Majesties coming to *Richmond* may be suspended untill affairs be better settled, and composed

And in the mean time no place may be appointed that may be any nearer to *London*, then the Parliament will allow the quarters of the Army to be.

4 That the Members charged may be forthwith suspended or sequestered the House.

5 That those that have deserted the Army may be instantly discharged, and dispersed, and receive no more of their arrears till the Army be first satisfied.

6 That both Parliament and City may be speedily, and effectually freed from those multitudes of Reformadoes and souldiers before mentioned, that flock together about *London*, by a speedy dispatch, and discharging of them from the City.

7 That such listings, or raising of new Forces, or drawing together of any before mentioned, and all preparations towards a new war may be effectually declared against and suppressed as also all invitations, or endeavours to draw in forreign forces.

8 That the present perplexed affairs of the Kingdome, and those concerning the Army, as also all the things desired in our late representation in behal of the Kingdome, may be put in some speedy way of settlement, and compolure.

Saint Albans
June 23. 1647.

By the appointment of his Excellence Sir
Thomas Fairfax and the Councell of
War.

John Rushworth
Secretary.

